

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 06509 042239Z

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SUBJECT: PERON ADDRESSES FREJULI CONGRESSMEN

1. SUMMARY. IN A TELEVISED ADDRESS TO FREJULI BLOC IN CONGRESS ON AUG 30, PERON CALLED FOR NATIONAL UNITY AND VOWED TO SET UP EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT AFTER OCT 12. LATIN AMERICAN ILLS AND DISUNITY WERE BLAMED ON DIVISIVE MACHINATIONS OF BIG POWERS. END SUMMARY

2. PERON DESCRIBED SITUATION FACED BY ARGENTINA AS A MOST DIFFICULT ONE, AS IF ARGENTINA WERE RECOVERING FROM A WAR OR OTHER CATASTROPHE. HE PROMISED TO SET UP EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT, IF ELECTED, AND CALLED ON ALL PATRIOTIC ARGENTINES, NO MATTER WHAT THEIR POLITICAL PARTY, TO HELP HIM.

3. PERON AGAIN EMPHASIZED NEED FOR LATIN AMERICAN UNITY. NOT MUCH PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE TOWARD THAT GOAL IN PAST THIRTY YEARS, HE LAMENTED, ATTRIBUTING THIS FAILURE TO THE EFFORTS OF IMPERIALISM TO KEEP THE UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS DIVIDED. IN LATIN AMERICA, THESE EFFORTS WERE BEGUN AFTER WWII AT THE 1956 MEETING OF CHIEFS OF STATE IN PANAMA AND CONTINUED AT THE
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1958 MEETING OF ARMY COMMANDERS IN COSTA RICA. HE ATTRIBUTED

POST-WAR DEMIGRATION OF LATIN AMERICA CIVILIAN POLITICAL LEADERS AND WAVE OF MILITARY DICTATORSHIPS TO A DELIBERATE CAMPAIGN SPEAR-HEADED BY PENTAGON "BRAIN-WASHINGS" OF THE LATIN AMERICAN MILITARY. THE THRUST OF THIS CAMPAIGN WAS TO HAVE LATIN AMERICA CONCENTRATE ON AN EXTERNAL FORCE, COMMUNISM, RATHER THAN ON ITS REAL PROBLEMS. "THEY HAVE KEPT US PLAYING A GAME OF MIDGETS," PERON COMPLAINED. "WE MUST NOW BREAK FREE OF ALL THAT AND THINK ON A HEMISPHERIC LEVEL."

4. AS HE HAD FORESEEN 30 YEARS BEFORE, PERON SAID, THE WAVE OF THE FUTURE WAS THE THIRD WORLD, OF WHICH ARGENTINA WAS A PART. HE REPEATED HIS PREVIOUS ASSERTIONS THAT IN THE FUTURE, DEVELOPED, INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS WILL NEED THE FOOD PRODUCED BY THE LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. LATTER WILL THEN BECOME THE RICH AND FORMER THE POOR. MOST OF THE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, IN THEIR VARIOUS WAYS, WERE MOVING TOWARD SOCIALISM, AS WAS ARGENTINA. ASKED SUBSEQUENTLY BY NEWSMEN FOR A DEFINITION OF SOCIALISM, HE SAID JUSTICIALISM AND SOCIALISM WERE ONE AND THE SAME THING, JUSTICIALISM WAS SIMPLY THE ARGENTINE ADAPTATION. THE ARGENTINE MODEL, HOWEVER, WAS NOT A DOGMATIC KIND OF SOCIALISM, AS WAS, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT OF THE SOVIET UNION. INDEED, HE SUGGESTED, IN THE LATTER CASE THERE MIGHT BE A MISNOMER, SINCE TO ENGAGE IN IMPERIALIST POLICIES, AS DID THE SOVIET UNION, VIOLATED THE VERY PRINCIPLES OF SOCIALISM.

5. COMMENT. THERE WAS LITTLE IN THE SPEECH THAT PERON HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY ARTICULATED IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER. IT REFLECTED HIS MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY GOALS: 1) REVISION OF HEMISPHERIC ORGANIZATIONS AND CHARTERS WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING US INFLUENCE AND INCREASING THAT OF ARGENTINE; AND 2) TO ENHANCE ARGENTINA'S WORLD IMAGE AND UNIVERSALIZE HER CONTINENTIAL POLICIES THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF THE THIRD WORLD. AN ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT OF ARGENTINE FOREIGN POLICY WILL BE PROVIDED IN SEPTTEL WHICH FOLLOWS SHORTLY. LODGE

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